

## Today's News - Tuesday, April 7, 2015

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tomorrow is this week's floating no-newsletter day (jurying SMPS-NY Marketing Awards!). We'll be back Thursday, April 9.

- ANN is pleased to present the first installment of a new book-in-progress by Nikos Salingaros that aims to change the way architecture is taught, evaluated, and practiced.
- Jacobs explains what Wim Wenders' films taught her about architecture: "It wasn't some formalist ideology that compelled me to write about the urban landscape. It was a simple idea that I picked up at the movies."
- Hume bemoans Toronto's condo boom that is creating "the retail desertification and a homogenization of the public realm - like some tsunami of sameness."
- Kennicott is none too happy with the postponement of the decision to landmark the Corcoran's interior: "George Washington University is extraordinarily unhappy. Cry me a river."
- Q&A with Speck and Dixon re: how they plan to reshape and transform Tampa's downtown waterfront.
- An interesting tale of Gehry approaching Zuckerberg to design Facebook's new HQ, and the CEO saying no, but "Gehry wouldn't take no for an answer," and the "futuristic new campus ended up finishing ahead of schedule and under-budget."
- A detailed look at Coop Himmelb(l)au's European Central Bank in Frankfurt + great Q&A with Prix re: deconstructivism and advice for young architects: "There are too many architects. We are sardines in an ocean of sharks. Don't fragment your power on stupid competitions or stupid buildings."
- Miranda x 2 as she tours Chile: Radic "channels nature's raw power" for a winery: "it's hard not to be completely and totally seduced." + Undurraga's "elegant and beautiful" saint's sanctuary in Santiago is "graceful, quiet, a beautiful work of architecture."
- Brownlee cheers a "Googleplex of schools" in Minnesota that "could teach your so-called 'open office' a thing or two" (and "the word 'classroom' is verboten").
- Snow designs a stadium for the St. Paul Saints that "is not your grandfather's ballpark": "she's not exactly your typical sports facilities architect," so "the marriage of Snow and the quirky minor league club makes a certain amount of sense. How many ballparks reserve a spot for a ball-delivering pig or have an adjacent dog park?"
- Killen takes a long look back at the "long-gone" Portland Public Market Building - "one of the city's most ambitious - and star-crossed - efforts in the realm of public markets."
- A great Q&A with Candela re: the inspiration behind his iconic Miami Marine Stadium, and new revitalization opportunities: "I can be now more of a perfectionist."
- Kats parses MoMA PS1 Young Architect Jaque and the "new idealists," representing "an emerging cadre of younger, politically and socially conscientious architects" offering "a 'third way' to be an architect" beyond "designing either banal structures at a corporate firm or expressive, name-brand buildings in a starchitect's office."
- A great profile of Paris-based Lacaton & Vassal (which started out in Nigeria): "They practice social architecture based on economy, modesty, and the found beauty of environments."
- A round-up of projects in Africa: "Although the Western media tends to focus on the humanitarian side of architecture in Africa, the continent is home to amazing design of all varieties."
- A round-up of "organic architecture - 11 best buildings whose shape or function mimics nature."
- Call for entries: OWC/Ohrid Watersports Club in Ohrid, Macedonia.

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**Architecture's New Scientific Foundations: A new book-in-progress aims to change the way architecture is evaluated and the way it is practiced.** By Nikos A. Salingaros - ArchNewsNow.com

**Everything I Know About Architecture, I Learned From Wim Wenders: What Wenders taught me in 1978 was that the things that I found compelling - industrial sites, skyscrapers, cities - were worthy of meticulous study...It wasn't some formalist ideology that compelled me to write about the urban landscape. It was a simple idea that I picked up at the movies.** By Karrie Jacobs [images] - Architect Magazine

**Condo culture doesn't have to be an oxymoron: The condo boom has created lots of space for shops, but why is it all so predictable? ...most include little more than the usual franchises and chains...the result is the retail desertification of Toronto, and a homogenization of the public realm...like some tsunami of sameness, and condos are their enablers.** By Christopher Hume - Toronto Star

**A vexing delay on the Corcoran's historical designation: The postponement on whether to extend landmark status to the interior could let outside influences creep in...George Washington University is extraordinarily unhappy...would be greatly inconvenienced by what it feels is an unprecedented intrusion on its private property rights. Cry me a river...would be a fatal blow to GWU's pretensions to care about the humanities.** By Philip Kennicott - Washington Post

**Q&A: Jeff Vinik's 'new urbanist' designers discuss reshaping Tampa: Tampa Bay Lightning owner is planning a \$1 billion transformation of the downtown waterfront...what they had to say about their goal of creating a walkable Tampa and how they hope to achieve that.** -- Jeff Speck/Speck & Associates; David Dixon/Stantec - Tampa Bay Times (Florida)

**Facebook tried to turn down a star architect who wanted to design its futuristic new campus: Frank Gehry approached Mark Zuckerberg and asked to design it...the company said no...But Gehry wouldn't take no for an answer... futuristic new campus ended up finishing ahead of schedule and under-budget...** [images] - Business Insider

**Functional Sculpture: Coop Himmelb(l)au's European Central Bank in Frankfurt + Q&A with Wolf Prix about deconstructivism, China and fish, and advice for young architects..."The architectural profession is going down. There are too many architects. We are sardines in an ocean of sharks...Don't fragment your power on stupid competitions or stupid buildings. You won't get results...Architects now suffer from obedience before it's necessary."** By Herbert Wright [images] - DesignCurial / Blueprint Magazine (UK)

**Winery by Chilean architect Smiljan Radic channels nature's raw power: ViK Vineyard winery is low-key from the outside, but all drama once you step in...it's hard not to be completely and totally seduced.** By Carolina A. Miranda [images] - Los Angeles Times

**Architecture for the people: A saint's sanctuary by Cristián Undurraga: elegant and beautiful...One of his finest works is a humble spiritual shrine...Hogar de Cristo...graceful, quiet, a beautiful work of architecture situated in the middle of one of Santiago's poorer enclaves.** By Carolina A. Miranda -- Undurraga Devés Arquitectos [images] - Los Angeles Times

**How To Design The Googleplex Of Schools: Alexandria, Minnesota's new high school could teach your so-called "open office" a thing or two: ...where the word "classroom" is verboten...inspiration for the design of the new Alexandria Area High School actually came from the students.** By John Brownlee -- John Pfluger/Cunningham Group Architecture [images] - Fast Company / Co. Design

[St. Paul Saints: Not your grandfather's ballpark: Instead of the red brick retro-style ballpark that some had hoped for, Julie Snow delivered a sleek low-slung structure...she's not exactly your typical sports facilities architect...the marriage of Snow and the quirky minor league club that produced CHS Field...makes a certain amount of sense...How many ballparks reserve a spot for a ball-delivering pig or have an adjacent dog park? -- Snow Kreilich Architects; AECOM; Ryan Cos.](#) - [Minneapolis Star Tribune](#)

[Past Tense Oregon: Long-gone Portland Public Market Building once stood tall: As plans move along toward the possible construction of the James Beard Public Market...if it is built, will be just a baseball throw northwest of where one of the city's most ambitious - and star-crossed - efforts in the realm of public markets once stood. By John Killen -- SERA Architects \[images\]](#) - [The Oregonian](#)

[Q&A: The Miami Marine Stadium's Architect on Its Past and Future: Hilario Candela speaks about the inspiration behind his iconic stadium, the problems of preservation, and new revitalization opportunities..."I can be now more of a perfectionist." \[images\]](#) - [Metropolis Magazine](#)

[MoMA PS1 Young Architect Andrés Jaque and the New Idealists: Zaha Hadid's rejection of political responsibility on behalf of all architects...fueled widespread outrage, generating discussion that has helped make an emerging cadre of younger, politically and socially conscientious architects more visible...Jaque's practice represents a "third way" to be an architect, an alternative to designing either banal structures at a corporate firm or expressive, name-brand buildings in a starchitect's office. By Anna Kats -- Office for Political Innovation - Artinfo](#)

[They build, but modestly: Architects specialize in simplicity, scale, context, beauty: The lessons of building in Africa stayed with Anne Lacaton and Jean-Philippe Vassal in their Paris-based practice, Lacaton & Vassal: use what is there, stay simple, embrace open air, and honor light, freedom, and grace. They practice social architecture based on economy, modesty, and the found beauty of environments.](#) - [Harvard Gazette](#)

[8 Projects That Showcase African Innovation: Although the Western media tends to focus on the humanitarian side of architecture in Africa, the continent is home to amazing design of all varieties. -- TERRENEUVE Architectes; Dive Architects; GoDesign Inc; Mecanoo;MASS Design Group; Erginoglu & Çalslar; NLÉ Works; The Manta Limited/Genberg Art UW Ltd. \[images\]](#) - [Architizer](#)

[Organic architecture - 11 best buildings whose shape or function mimics nature. -- Frank Lloyd Wright; Peter Cook/Colin Fournier; Zaha Hadid; Foster + Partners; Renzo Piano; Arata Isozaki; ARTechnic; Atmos;Fariborz Sahba; Heatherwick Studio \[images\]](#) - [DesignCurial \(UK\)](#)

[Call for entries: OWC/Ohrid Watersports Club, a sports and entertainment center in Ohrid, Macedonia; open to students and young architects; cash prizes; earlybird registration deadline \(save money!\): April 12; final registration deadline: May 31 \(submissions due June 15\)](#) - [ArchMedium](#)



[-- Atelier Peter Zumthor: His buildings stand out against their surrounding contexts, whether urban environments or natural landscapes, as statements of formal clarity. By Martin Søberg](#)

[-- Interview: Jacques Herzog: Herzog & de Meuron is one of the largest and currently, perhaps the most successful Swiss architectural practice...Q&A about his current trials and tribulations, as well as his influences and goals. By Ulf Meyer](#)

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